

# South Carolina is Just Right for Metal Recycling

South Carolina's metal recycling industry is strong, with the second highest number of steel mills in the Southeast. The state's three mills include two at the Nucor Corporation, located in Darlington & Berkeley Counties and one at CMC Steel in Lexington County.

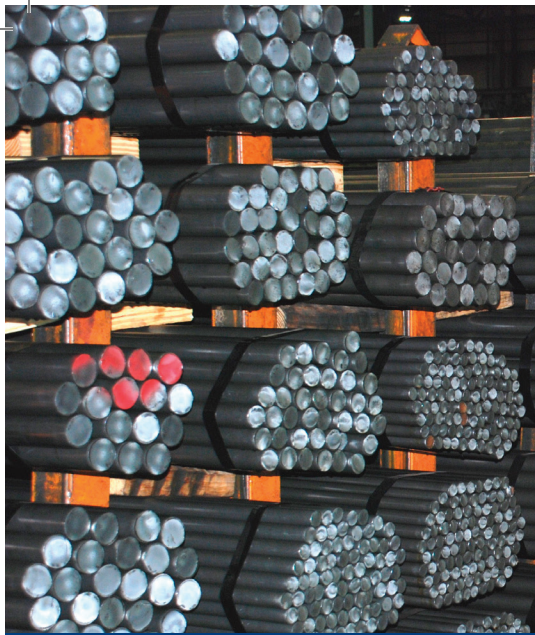


Steel is the nation's most recycled material. Some of the items that go into making recycled steel include:

- Cars
- Cans
- Washing machines
- Bicycles

South Carolina  
**Just  right.**  
[SCcommerce.com](http://SCcommerce.com)





## The Metal Recycling Industry: Strength in Our State's Economy

The Nucor Corporation in Darlington County produces more than 860,000 tons of steel. This steel can be used to create joists and rebar for the construction industry. Similarly, JW Aluminum, a recycled aluminum mill, produces aluminum siding, automotive body materials, and flexible packaging. There are about 170 scrap metal recycling businesses in South Carolina who can haul, process, and manufacture recycled metals for some the following industry sectors:

- automotive
- construction and building
- energy
- agriculture
- aerospace
- tools
- packaging

### Benefits of Metal Recycling

Today, the U.S. scrap recycling industry employs more than 137,000 people, including more than 2,100 workers in South Carolina who contribute to recycling's \$13 billion economic impact.

More than 11 million tons of iron and scrap steel are produced each year and 70% of this is recycled. In South

Carolina, the demand for steel is great, requiring 4 million tons of steel and 120,000 tons of aluminum annually.

For every ton of steel recycled, water and energy are saved, creating an 86% reduction in air emissions and 76% reduction of water pollution.

### Green Facts

- The state of South Carolina currently has three steel mills.
- South Carolina local governments reported earnings of more than \$2.6 million from the sale of metal in 2014.
- South Carolinians recycled more than 146 pounds of metal per person during 2014.
- It takes up to 500 years for aluminum cans to break down in the landfill. On the other hand, a recycled aluminum can is processed so quickly, it can be back on store shelves in 6 to 8 weeks.

South Carolina  
**Just  right.**

Follow Us: [SCcommerce.com](https://www.SCcommerce.com) [Twitter.com/SCcommerce](https://twitter.com/SCcommerce)  
Contact Us: [info@SCcommerce.com](mailto:info@SCcommerce.com)